DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 271 353 SO 017 264

TITLE American Folk Music and Folklore Recordings 1984: A Selected List.
INSTITUTION Library of Congress, Washington, D.C. American Folklife Center.
PUB DATE 85
NOTE 14p.; For the 1983 list, see SO 017 265.
PUB TYPE Reference Materials - Bibliographies (131)

EDRS PRICE MF01/PC01 Plus Postage.
DESCRIPTORS Annotated Bibliographies; *Black Culture; Discographies; *Folk Culture; *Jazz; *Modernism; *Music; *Popular Culture
IDENTIFIERS *Library of Congress

ABSTRACT

In an effort to encourage appreciation of the rich folk heritage of the United States, the American Folklife Center of the Library of Congress presents this annual list of 30 recordings selected by a panel of distinguished experts from nearly two hundred titles submitted by producers, suggested by folklorists and ethnomusicologists, and proposed by center staff. All entries were released in 1984, feature cultural traditions found within the United States, emphasize "root traditions" over popular adaptations of traditional materials, are conveniently available to American purchasers, and are well annotated with liner notes or accompanying booklets relating the recordings to the performers, their communities, genres, styles, or other pertinent information. The annotated entries are followed by sources of the listed recordings as well as sources of further listings and reviews of folk records. (BZ)

****
* Reproductions supplied by EDRS are the best that can be made *
* from the original document. *
****

"PERMISSION TO REPRODUCE THIS MATERIAL HAS BEEN GRANTED BY

AMERICAN FOLKLIFE CENTER

TO THE EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES INFORMATION CENTER (ERIC)."

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
Office of Educational Research and Improvement
EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES INFORMATION CENTER (ERIC)

☒ This document has been reproduced as received from the person or organization originating it.

☐ Minor changes have been made to improve reproduction quality.

• Points of view or opinions stated in this document do not necessarily represent official OERI position or policy.

AMERICAN FOLK MUSIC AND FOLKLORE RECORDINGS 1984
A SELECTED LIST

Selection Panel

Thomas A. Adler
University of Kentucky; Record Review Editor, *Western Folklore*

Norm Cohen
Executive Secretary, John Edwards Memorial Forum;
Editor, *JEMF Quarterly;* Record Review Editor, *Journal of American Folklore*

David Evans
Director, Program for Southern Regional Music, Memphis State University

William Ivey
Director, Country Music Foundation

Ethel Raim
Director, Ethnic Folk Arts Center

Michael Licht
Project Coordinator

American Folklife Center
Library of Congress
Washington, D.C. 20540
1985

INTRODUCTION

For four decades the Library of Congress has helped encourage appreciation of our country's rich folk heritage by publishing its own phonograph record series of traditional folk music and folktales. Last year the Library's American Folklife Center rededicated itself to this aim by recognizing the recording efforts of others through the publication of an annual list of quality records and audio tapes of traditional American folk music and folklore. The list is not comprehensive; rather, it is intended to provide a short, usable guide to important audio resources for educators, librarians, and all those who enjoy America's grassroots music and spoken arts.

The thirty recordings listed here were selected by a panel of distinguished experts from nearly two hundred titles submitted by producers, suggested by folklorists and ethnomusicologists, and proposed by Center staff. In keeping with guidelines established last year, we required that all entries:

—be released in 1984;

—feature cultural traditions found within the United States;

—emphasize "root traditions" over popular adaptations of traditional materials;

—be conveniently available to American purchasers;

—and be well annotated with liner notes or accompanying booklets relating the recordings to the performers, their communities, genres, styles, or other pertinent information.

It is our hope that publication of this list will stimulate an increase in the number of new, high-quality documentary folk recordings, leading ultimately to increased support and encouragement for those performers who preserve our country's folk heritage.

The annotated entries below are followed by information about sources for these and other folk records and tapes, as well as other publications which list and review traditional music recordings. We hope that future editions of this list will include more recordings of folktales and other traditional spoken arts, a wider range of America's ethnic and regional traditions, and more records and tapes of

America's folk music issued abroad and distributed in the United States. To suggest suitable 1985 releases for consideration by next year's panel, or to obtain additional copies of this publication or *American Folk Music and Folklore Recordings 1983*, please write to: Annual Recordings List, American Folklife Center, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C. 20540.

Cowden Family; Songs My Family Loves—Favorite Folksongs of the Cowden Family, Cushman, Arkansas. Arkansas Traditions 002. LP. Ozark folksongs, ballads, and sentimental favorites sung by Mrs. Noble Cowden, accompanied on guitar by her daughter Lina Lee. Jacket notes by George West; 8-page booklet and lyric transcriptions by W. K. McNeil.

Edden Hammons; The Edden Hammons Collection. University of West Virginia Press Sound Archives 001. LP. Field recordings from 1947 of Edden Hammons (c.1874–1955), one of the finest West Virginia fiddlers of the last generation. Original aluminum-disc recordings by Louis Watson Chappell. With an 18-page booklet by John A. Cuthbert and Alan Jabbour, including extensive photos, a map, biographical and program notes, musical transcriptions, and a bibliography/discography.

John W. Summers; Indiana Fiddler. Rounder 0194. LP. Field recordings, 1962–1972, of the late "Dick" Summers, fiddler and violin-maker, by Judge Dan White, Art Rosenbaum, and Joel and Kathy Shimberg. A rare sampler of an old-time midwestern fiddling style; some selections have banjo or guitar accompaniment. With a 7-page booklet including essays by Art Rosenbaum and Kathy and Joel Shimberg. Program notes are by Kathy and Joel Shimberg, assisted by Bob Carlin and Art Rosenbaum.

The Rabun County Gospel Singing Convention and **Christian Harmony.** Foxfire; no catalog number. Two cassettes. Field recordings, 1977–1981, of Southern religious music in North Georgia (*Singing Convention*) and western North Carolina and Georgia (*Christian Harmony*), recorded and researched by students in the Shape Note Singing Project at Georgia's Rabun County High School. These two traditions of "shape-note" music tablature and four-part vocal harmony use different songbooks and writing systems, but each carries on century-old practices of "singing schools" and "all day singing and dinner on the ground." The two cassettes are accompanied by a 62-page special issue of *Foxfire* magazine (Volume 18, Number 4 [Winter 1984]) containing program notes, introductory essays, interviews with singers, photos, and a bibliography.

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

Uncle Dave Macon; "Keep My Skillet Good and Greasy." Old Homestead OHCS-148. LP. Recordings, 1927-1938, by the banjo-playing singer David Harrison Macon, popular Tennessee entertainer and star of the early "Grand Ole Opry" radio show. Jacket notes by Charles Wolfe.

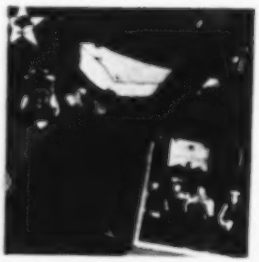
The Cold Water Pledge; Volumes 1 & 2. Marimac 9104/9105. Two cassettes. Compilation of historic commerrial recordings of country music from the Prohibition Era (late 1920s and early 1930s) dealing with "moonshine" liquor and the temperance movement. Accompanied by a 16-page booklet by W. K. McNeil.

The Delmore Brothers; Volume 1—Weary Lonesome Blues. Old Homestead OHCS-153. LP. Reissues of commercial country recordings, 1931-1940, by Alton and Rabon Delmore, an influential vocal duet from Alabama. Jacket notes by Charles Wolfe.

Carter and Ralph Stanley; Stanley Series—Volume 1, Number 4. Copper Creek CCSS, Volume 1, Number 4. LP. A live bluegrass show, including comedy routines, recorded on October 16, 1966 at the Brown County Jamboree in Bean Blossom, Indiana by Neil Rosenberg and Bill Ivey. With a 6-page booklet, including notes and lyric transcriptions, by Gary B. and Mosie Reid.

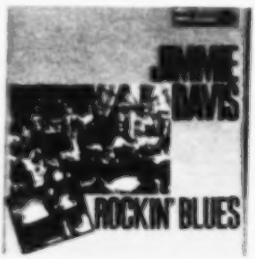
Bill Monroe. Columbia Historic Edition FC 38904. LP/cassette. Early recordings, 1945-1947, by influential band leader, vocalist, mandolin player, and acknowledged founder of bluegrass music Bill Monroe. Includes three previously unreleased recordings. Jacket notes by Bob Allen.

BEST COPY AVAILABLE



Buddy Jones; Louisiana's Honky Tonk Man. Texas Rose TXR-2711. LP. Country music, early "honky tonk," and blues from singer-guitarist Oscar Bergan "Buddy" Jones. Commercial recordings, 1935-1941, by this Shreveport policeman, often accompanied by his brother Buster and other well-known musicians. Includes fellow policemen Cliff Bruner on fiddle, Moon Mullican on piano, and a duet with Shreveport public service commissioner (later governor) Jimmie Davis. Jacket notes by Donald Lee Nelson; photos.

Jimmie Davis; Rockin' Blues. Bear Family BFX 15125. LP. Risqué blues and other songs, originally recorded between 1929 and 1933 by Jimmie Davis, later composer of "You Are My Sunshine" and governor of Louisiana. Includes collaborations with black guitarists Ed Schafer and Oscar Woods, as well as white Louisiana guitarists Leon Chappelear, Eddie Quinn, and Buddy Jones. Not for children, but a unique compilation of early blues recordings by a white artist. Jacket notes by Tony Russell.



Keep It to Yourself; Arkansas Blues Volume 1—Solo Performances. Rooster Blues R7605. LP. Field recordings from 1976 by Louis Guida. Solo vocal, guitar, piano, and harmonica renditions of Afro-American music. Jacket notes by Louis Guida; photos by Louis Guida and Cheryl Cohen.

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

Virginia Traditions; Virginia Work Songs. Blue Ridge Institute BRI 007. LP. Field recordings, 1936–1980, of unaccompanied agricultural and maritime worksongs sung by black Virginians. Recordings (some previously unpublished) by John A. Lomax, Alan Lomax, and Harold Spivacke for the Library of Congress, Benjamin O. Colonna, Jr. for NBC Radio, and Glen Hinson. With a 36-page booklet by Glen Hinson, including map, photos, and a bibliography.

Elizabeth Cotten; LIVE! Arhoolie 1089. LP. Live concert recordings of "Libba" Cotten, the North Carolina-born guitarist, singer, and songwriter who greatly influenced the renewed interest in American folksongs in the 1960s. Brief jacket notes.

Blind Lemon Jefferson; King of the Country Blues. Yazoo L-1069. LP; two-record set. Historic recordings, 1926–1929, by Texas singer and guitarist Lemon Jefferson, the first commercially successful "down home" blues performer. Extensive jacket notes by Stephan Calt.

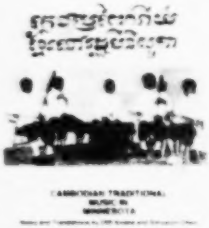
Blind Blake; Ragtime Guitar's Foremost Fingerpicker. Yazoo L-1068. LP; two-record set. Reissues of historic ragtime and blues recordings, 1926–1932, by noted guitarist and singer Arthur Blake. Some selections with vocalists Leola B. Wilson, Irene Scruggs, and Bertha Henderson. Extensive jacket notes by Steve Calt and Woody Mann.

Clarence Gatemouth Brown; The Original Peacock Recordings. Rounder 2039. LP. Reissues of 1952–1959 recordings of big-band blues from Houston, featuring Louisiana-born vocalist Clarence Brown on guitar, harmonica, and violin. Includes two previously unreleased recordings. Jacket notes by Dick Shurman.

Big Maceo; Volume One & Volume Two. Blues Classics 28 & 29. Two LPs. Blues by pianist and singer Maceo Merriweather, originally recorded in 1941–1942 (Volume One) and 1945–1947 (Volume Two). Accompanied by guitarist Tampa Red and other Chicago musicians. Jacket notes by Mike Rowe.

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

OTHER ETHNIC TRADITIONS



Cambodian Traditional Music in Minnesota. World Music Enterprises; no catalog number. Cassette. Instrumental and vocal music performed by members of the Cambodian community of Minneapolis-St. Paul. The ensemble plays and sings wedding and entertainment songs (*phleng kar* and *mahori*) and classical Khmer ceremonial music (*pin peat*). Recorded in 1980–1983 by Cliff Sloane and David Stenshoel. With an 11-page booklet by Cliff Sloane and Sithoeurn Chem containing historical and musical essays and lyrics in Khmer with English translations; translations and calligraphy by Sithoeurn Chem.

Harry Choates; The Fiddle King of Cajun Swing. Arhoolie 5027. LP. Reissues of 1946–1949 recordings by influential fiddler, vocalist, and band leader Harry Choates, who merged the music of French Louisiana with jazz dance music. Jacket notes by Tim Knight.

Cubanakán. Cubanakán [NR15601-1]. LP. Afro-Cuban *Santería*, the religious music of the *lucumí*, descendents of Yoruba slaves, recorded by a group based in Washington, D.C. Traditional African-derived drum rhythms and vocal music. Jacket notes.

The First Women Duets/Los Primeros Duetos Femininas. Folklyric 9035. LP. Historic recordings, 1929–1955, documenting early vocal duets featuring women performers. Artists include El Trio Garnica-Ascencio, Las Hermanas Padilla, Carmen y Laura, Las Hermanas Huerta, and members of the Mendoza family. Accompaniments range from single guitars and string bands to *conjuntos*, mariachis, and orchestras. Jacket notes and 16-page booklet, including Spanish lyrics and English translations, by Phillip Sonnichsen.

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

Wilmoth Houdini. Folklyric 9040. LP. Calypso songs by Trinidad-born New York vocalist Wilmoth Hendricks, originally recorded from 1928 to 1940. Jazz-band and "bamboo orchestra" accompaniment. Jacket notes by John Cowley.

Viola Kjeldahl Lee; Old Time Dance Music from Norway & Minnesota. Banjar BR-1846. LP. Waltzes, schottisches, and polkas from the Norwegian-American community of western Minnesota, played on the accordion. Jacket notes by LeRoy Larson.

Las Hermanas Mendoza/The Mendoza Sisters; Juanita y Maria. Arhoolie 3017. LP. Duets by Texas singers Juanita and Maria Mendoza; Mexican-American love songs originally recorded from 1946 to 1952. Guitar accompaniment by Maria and older sister Lydia, a well-known performer in her own right. Jacket notes by Chris Strachwitz; Spanish lyrics transcribed and translated by Dan Dickey.

Texas Czech-Bohemian Bands; Early Recordings 1928–1953. Folklyric 9031. LP. Dance-band music, largely polkas and waltzes, from the Czech and Bohemian communities of south and central Texas. Jacket notes by Chris Strachwitz.

Tunes from the Amerika Trunk; Traditional Norwegian-American Music from Wisconsin, Volume II. Folklore Village Farm FVF 202. LP. Norwegian-American dance music played on violin, banjo, accordion, and piano by the Blom family, the Nyen family, and other musicians from the Upper Midwest. Includes a thirty-year-old field recording of violinist Henry "Fiskarbekk" Everson made by Milo Edwards. Jacket notes by Philip Martin.

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

Turtle Mountain Music. Folkways FES 4140. LP; two-record set. Music from the Turtle Mountain Reservation of North Dakota. Studio and field recordings of the music of this culturally diverse area in the Canadian border region, where Pembina Chippewa, Cree, French, British, and Metchif (or Metis) traditions coexist and blend. Songs in Chippewa, Cree, French, and English; music of the dance drum, fiddle, string band, and rock-and-roll band. With a 16-page booklet by Nicholas Curchin Vrooman, including the lyrics of English and French songs (with English translations of the latter), interview transcriptions, photos by Murray Lemley, and a historical essay by Dennis Demontigny.

ANTHOLOGIES WITH A REGIONAL FOCUS

Do Not Pass Me By; A Celebration of Colorado Folklife. Colorado State Folk Arts Program 43485. Cassette. Thirteen five-minute samplings of Colorado traditions, including cowboy poetry and songs, fiddle tunes, Slovenian accordion music, German polkas, Irish balladry, Spanish-American string bands, bluegrass-gospel, country music, and contemporary black gospel music. Originally a radio documentary series, each segment includes narration. Field recordings and descriptive brochure by David A. Brose.

Folk Visions & Voices; Traditional Music & Song in Northern Georgia, Volume One & Volume Two. Ethnic Folkways FE 34161 [FSS 34161] & FE 34162 [FSS 34162]. LP. Field recordings, 1977–1983, by Art Rosenbaum. Volume One devotes one side to "early mountain songs, ballads, and tunes" and the other to black religious singing; Volume Two covers "black frolic songs, work songs and blues," as well as white string-band music, banjo tunes, and songs. Each record contains an extensively annotated insert, with notes and lyric transcriptions by Art Rosenbaum and photos by Margo Newmark Rosenbaum. A companion to the book *Folk Visions and Voices: Traditional Music and Song in North Georgia*, Athens: The University of Georgia Press, 1983.

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

Publishers of Listed Recordings

Arhoolie Records
10341 San Pablo Avenue
El Cerrito, CA 94530

Arkansas Traditions Records
1018 Rock Street
Little Rock, AR 72202

BRI Records
Blue Ridge Institute
Ferrum College
Ferrum, VA 24088

Banjar Records
Box 32164
7440 University Avenue, N.E.
Minneapolis, MN 55432

Bear Family Records
Eduard-Grunow-Str. 12
2800 Bremen
WEST GERMANY

Blues Classics
10341 San Pablo Avenue
El Cerrito, CA 94530

Colorado State Folk Arts Program
Colorado Council on the Arts and Humanities
770 Pennsylvania Street
Denver, CO 80203

Columbia Records
51 West 52nd Street
New York, NY 10019

Copper Creek Records
2623 Cedarhurst Avenue, N.W.
Roanoke, VA 24012

Cubanakán
1760 Columbia Road, N.W.
Washington, DC 20009

Ethnic Folkways
Folkways Records and Service Corporation
632 Broadway, 9th Floor
New York, NY 10012

Folklore Village Farms Records
Wisconsin Folklife Center
Route 3
Dodgeville, WI 53533

Folklyric Records
10341 San Pablo Avenue
El Cerrito, CA 94530

Folkways Records and Service Corporation
632 Broadway, 9th floor
New York, NY 10012

Foxfire Records
Foxfire, Inc.
Rabun Gap, GA 30568

Marimac Recordings
P.O. Box 5
Little Ferry, NJ 07643

Old Homestead Records
P.O. Box 100
Brighton, MI 48116

Rooster Blues
2615 N. Wilton Avenue
Chicago, IL 60614

Rounder Records
One Camp Road
Cambridge, MA 02140

Texas Rose Records
13821 Calvert Street
Van Nuys, CA 91401

West Virginia University Press
Sound Archives
Charles C. Wise, Jr. Library
P.O. Box 6069
Morgantown, WV 26506-6069

World Music Enterprises
717 Avondale
Kent, OH 44240

Yazoo Records
245 Waverly Place
New York, NY 10014

For further listings and reviews of folk records, consult publications such as *American Music, Black Sheep Review, Bluegrass Unlimited, Blues Unlimited, Come for to Sing, County Sales Newsletter, Disc Collector, Ethnomusicology, JEMF Quarterly, Journal of American Folklore, Living Blues, Old Time Music, Sing Out!*, and *Rockingchair* (a supplement of the *Voice of Youth Advocate*). *Ethnomusicology*, the journal of the Society for Ethnomusicology, publishes a "Current Discography" feature in each issue. In addition, the free guide *Folklife and Ethnomusicology Serial Publications in North America* is available from the Archive of Folk Culture, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C. 20540.

Mail-Order Sources for Folk Recordings

Alcazar Records
Box 429
Waterbury, VT 05676
(802) 244-8657

Andy's Front Hall
P.O. Box 307
Voorheesville, NY 12186
(518) 765-4193

County Sales
Box 191
Floyd, VA 24091
(703) 745-2001

Down Home Music, Inc.
10341 San Pablo Avenue
El Cerrito, CA 94530
(415) 525-1494

Elderly Records
1100 N. Washington
P.O. Box 14210
Lansing, MI 48901
(517) 372-7890, 372-4161

Rooster Blues
2615 N. Wilton Avenue
Chicago, IL 60614
(312) 281-3385

Roundup Records
P.O. Box 154
North Cambridge, MA 02140
(617) 354-0700

For a more complete guide to folk record labels and direct mail-order sources, write for the free reference aid *Record Companies in North America Specializing in Folk Music, Folklore and Ethnomusicology* prepared by the Archive of Folk Culture, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C. 20540.

BEST COPY AVAILABLE